

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Action/Discussion Item:

Kentucky Board of Education Legislative Agenda (Matrix worksheet under separate cover)

Action Question:

What legislative proposals related to public education should the Kentucky Board of Education endorse for consideration by the 2005 General Assembly?

History/Background:

Existing Policy. The General Assembly will meet in January 2006 for its regular 60-day legislative session. Appendix A includes a list of possible legislative initiatives for the Board's consideration. The list includes recommendations endorsed by the Board as 2005 legislative initiatives that were not adopted and that staff recommend pursuing.

Additional recommendations may be forthcoming due to the following:

- The Office of Education Accountability (OEA) is completing a comprehensive study of school facilities;
- The Department is contracting with a school finance expert to make recommendations about changes in the SEEK; and
- The Department is continuing to explore ways to reduce paperwork and expedite the process of payments to local districts.

At the August meeting, the Board requested a matrix to help establish priorities. Such a matrix is being sent under separate cover and can be used by each member as a worksheet in determining legislative priorities.

The item related to interventions for students at key transition points has been revised to require all low-performing schools to review each student's progress in reading and mathematics when entering the school, conduct additional diagnostic assessments if needed, and develop an intervention plan.

Policy Issues:

What suggestions does the KBE have for staff concerning the proposed 2006 Legislative agenda?

Are there additional legislative changes KBE would like staff to pursue that are aligned with its 2005-06 priorities?

Staff Recommendation and Rationale:

The Kentucky Board of Education should endorse those proposals or positions it deems appropriate for consideration by the 2006 General Assembly.

Impact on Getting to Proficiency:

One of the guiding principles in formulating the legislative proposals is the KBE's goal of reaching proficiency by 2014.

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